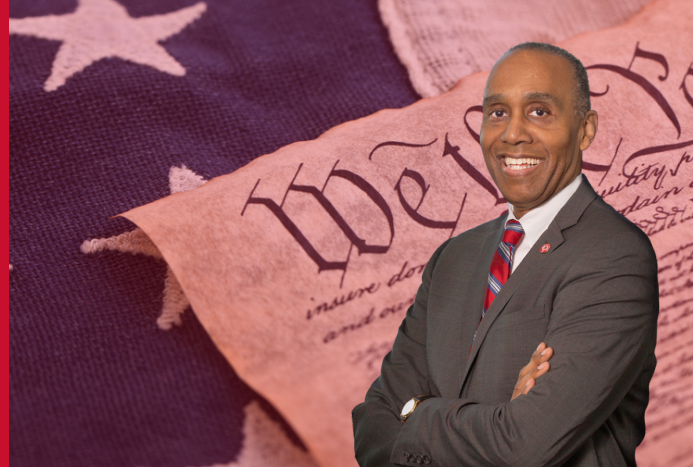


U.S. Constitutional Amendments: Educator's Guide

UH Law Center Dean Leonard M. Baynes hosts this series where he explores how the amendments relate to society today.



1st Amendment – Freedoms of Expression	2nd Amendment – Right to Bear Arms
<i>Protects freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and the right to petition the government.</i>	<i>Guarantees the right to keep and bear arms.</i>
3rd Amendment – Quartering of Soldiers	4th Amendment – Search and Seizure
<i>Prevents the government from forcing citizens to house soldiers in peacetime.</i>	<i>Protects against unreasonable searches and seizures; requires warrants based on probable cause.</i>
5th Amendment – Rights of the Accused	6th Amendment – Right to a Fair Trial
<i>Provides due process, protection against double jeopardy, self-incrimination, and guarantees just compensation for property taken for public use.</i>	<i>Guarantees a speedy and public trial by jury, the right to confront witnesses, and the right to an attorney.</i>
7th Amendment – Civil Trials	8th Amendment – Cruel and Unusual Punishment
<i>Provides for the right to a jury trial in certain civil cases.</i>	<i>Prohibits excessive bail, excessive fines, and cruel or unusual punishment.</i>
9th Amendment – Rights Retained by the People	10th Amendment – Powers Reserved to the States
<i>Asserts that people have rights beyond those listed in the Constitution.</i>	<i>Says powers not given to the federal government are reserved to the states or the people.</i>
11th Amendment – Lawsuits Against States	12th Amendment – Election of President and Vice President
<i>Limits the ability of individuals to sue states in federal court.</i>	<i>Revises the process for electing the President and Vice President, establishing separate ballots.</i>
13th Amendment – Abolition of Slavery	14th Amendment – Citizenship and Equal Protection
<i>Abolishes slavery and involuntary servitude (except as punishment for crime).</i>	<i>Defines citizenship, guarantees due process, and ensures equal protection under the law.</i>
15th Amendment – Voting Rights	16th Amendment – Federal Income Tax
<i>Prohibits denial of the right to vote based on race, color, or previous condition of servitude.</i>	<i>Allows Congress to collect an income tax without apportioning it among the states.</i>

Amendment Playlist: <https://youtu.be/xEPegT2ILMc?feature=shared>

17th Amendment – Direct Election of Senators	18th Amendment – Prohibition
<i>Establishes the direct election of U.S. Senators by the people instead of state legislatures.</i>	<i>Prohibited the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages (later repealed by the 21st Amendment).</i>
19th Amendment – Women’s Suffrage	20th Amendment – Terms of President and Congress
<i>Grants women the right to vote.</i>	<i>Sets the start and end dates for presidential and congressional terms and clarifies presidential succession.</i>
21st Amendment – Repeal of Prohibition	22nd Amendment – Presidential Term Limits
<i>Repeals the 18th Amendment, ending national prohibition of alcohol.</i>	<i>Limits the President to two terms in office.</i>
23rd Amendment – Voting in D.C.	24th Amendment – Abolition of Poll Taxes
<i>Gives residents of Washington, D.C., the right to vote for President and Vice President and elect electors in the Electoral College.</i>	<i>Prohibits poll taxes in federal elections, removing financial barriers to voting.</i>
25th Amendment – Presidential Succession and Disability	26th Amendment – Voting Age
<i>Clarifies the line of succession and procedures if the President is unable to perform duties.</i>	<i>Lowers the voting age to 18 years.</i>
27th Amendment – Congressional Pay	
<i>Prevents any law that changes congressional salaries from taking effect until after the next election of representatives.</i>	

Student Questions

1. Which amendment do you think has the biggest impact on your everyday life? Why?
2. How did the Civil War Amendments (13, 14, 15) change America?
3. Which amendment do you think was the most difficult to pass, and why?
4. How do the Bill of Rights (Amendments 1–10) protect individual freedoms?
5. If you could propose a 28th Amendment, what would it be?